

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendment to the Abstract

The Examiner objected to the abstract as including the term “comprises.”

Applicant has amended the abstract to replace “comprises” with “includes.”

Applicant has also taken the opportunity to shorten the abstract, which originally contained on the order of 167 words, so that is now believed to contain no more than 150 words. This amendment is not believed to add new matter.

Amendment to the Specification

Applicant has amended paragraph [34] to change “FIG. 2” to FIG. 2A” as suggested by the Examiner. This amendment is not believed to add new matter.

Applicant has amended paragraph [85] to change reference numerals 95 and 98 to 97 and 100 as suggested by the Examiner. This amendment is not believed to add new matter.

Applicant has amended paragraph [112] to change reference numeral 185 to 182 as suggested by the Examiner. This amendment is not believed to add new matter.

Applicant has amended paragraph [126] to add a missing reference numeral 223, called out in FIG. 12C. This amendment is not believed to add new matter.

Applicant has amended paragraph [133] to change reference numeral 282 to 292 as suggested by the Examiner. This amendment is not believed to add new matter.

Applicant has amended paragraph [139] to change reference numeral 227 to 327 as suggested by the Examiner. This amendment is not believed to add new matter.

The Examiner objected to FIG. 12C as including reference number 223 without any corresponding mention of element 223 in the specification. Applicant has amended paragraph 126 the specification to add the reference number 223 to the reference to atmospheric pressure. This amendment does not add new matter, but rather seeks to clarify what is being described and illustrated.

Amendment to the Drawings

The Examiner also suggested changes to FIGS. 3B, 10B, and 12B.

In FIG. 3B, Applicant has changed reference number 65 to 60 as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant has also moved the left-hand stretch arrow upwardly to match the right-hand stretch arrow.

In FIG. 10B, Applicant has made the lead line for mixture 188 extend all the way to mixture 188 as suggested by the Examiner.

In FIG. 12C, Applicant has changed reference number 195 to 198 as suggested by the Examiner.

The amendments to the drawings correct manifest clerical errors and do not add new matter. That the errors were evident from the remaining portions of the specification is confirmed that the fact Examiner was easily able to spot the errors.

Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection

The Examiner has rejected the claims for obviousness-type double patenting in view of claims 1-22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,398,992 and claims 1-34 of U.S. Patent No. 6,780,352. Applicant is submitting with this Amendment suitable Terminal Disclaimers.

Indefiniteness Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness, citing the limitation "defined by that portion of the material that is located within a particular distance of the solid bodies." Applicant has removed that limitation, thereby obviating the rejection. This amendment is not believed to add new matter.

Applicant has also corrected claim 29 to remove a surplus period at the end.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Application No. 10/824,333
Amendment dated October 27, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 28, 2005

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Slone". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David N. Slone
Reg. No. 28,572

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Attachments
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Attachment: Replacement Sheets 2/8 and 6/8
Annotated Sheets 2/8 and 6/8 showing markings

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Amendments to the Drawings:

Applicant is submitting two replacement sheets as well as versions showing markings reflecting the corrections.

Attached replacement sheet 2/8 of drawings includes changes to **FIG. 3B**. This sheet, which includes FIGS. 3A through 3G replaces the original sheet that included FIGS. 3A through 3G.

Attached replacement sheet 6/8 of drawings includes changes to **FIG. 10B** and **FIG. 12C**. This sheet, which includes FIGS. 10A through 10D, 11, and 12A through 12C replaces the original sheet that included FIGS. 10 through 10D, 11, and 12A through 12C.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets 2/8 and 6/8
Annotated Sheets 2/8 and 6/8 showing markings

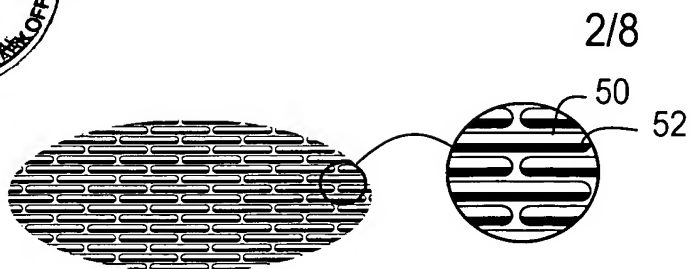


FIG. 3A

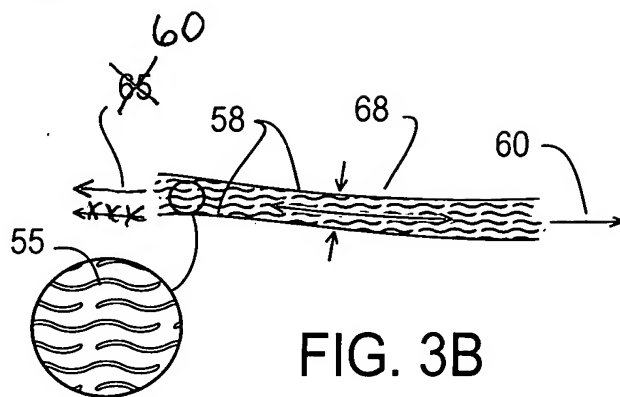


FIG. 3B

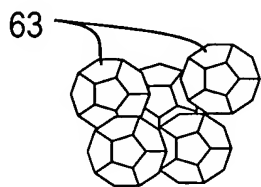


FIG. 3C

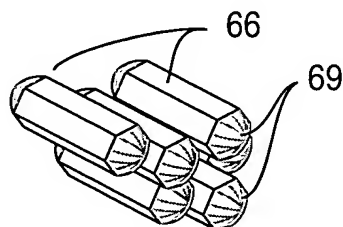


FIG. 3D

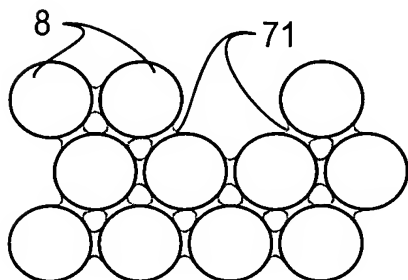


FIG. 3E

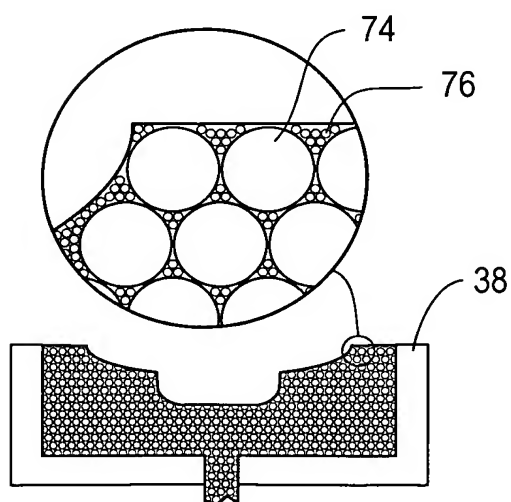


FIG. 3F

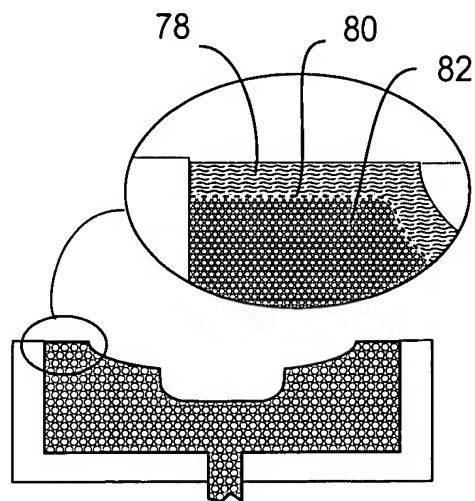


FIG. 3G

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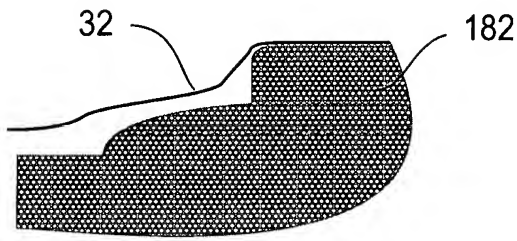


FIG. 10A

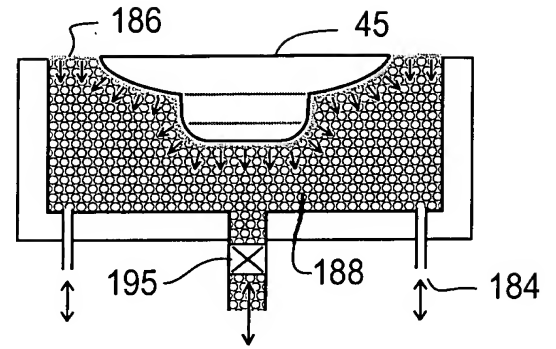


FIG. 10B

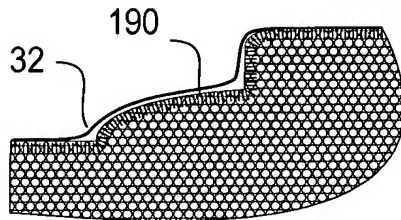


FIG. 10C

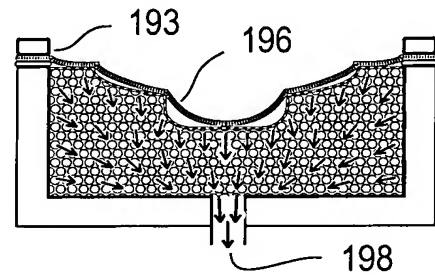


FIG. 10D

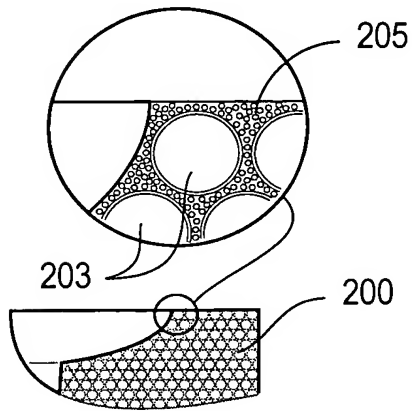


FIG. 11

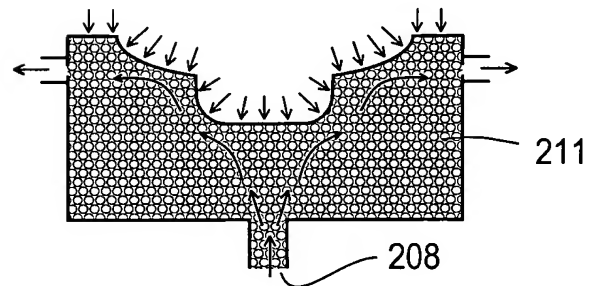


FIG. 12A

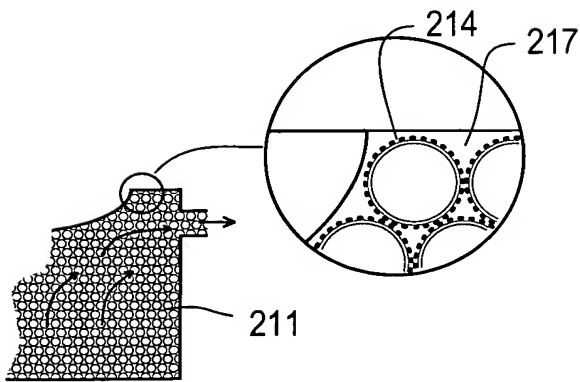


FIG. 12B

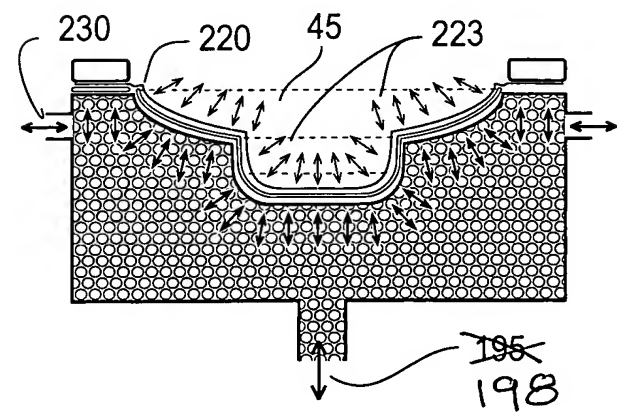


FIG. 12C